Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 AGR-20 COME-00 OPIC-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /120 W

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R 081555Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0906

CONFIDENTIAL SANTO DOMINGO 2766

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID, DR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AID AGRICULTURAL LOAN

1. DURING VENEZUELAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION (JULY 5), I DREW ASIDE DIOGENES FERNANDEZ, CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR, TO INFORM HIM THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A TWELVE MILLION DOLLAR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR LOAN WOULD APPEAR IN THE NEXT DAY'S PRESS. I CONTINUED THAT I THOUGHT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD GO WELL SINCE SO MUCH EXCELLENT STAFF WORK ON BOTH SIDES HAD GONE INTO THE PREPARATORY STUDIES AND DOCUMENTS. FERNANDEZ AGREED. I THEN MENTIONED THERE WAS NO GREAT URGENCY ON OUR SIDE TO RUSH THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE I DID NOT INTEND TO SIGN ANYTHING (ASSUMING AGREEMENT) UNTIL SOME TIME AFTER THE AUGUST 16 INAUGUATION WHEN WE KNEW WHO THE PRESIDENT'S CHOICES WERE FOR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK, AND THE HEAD OF THE AG BANK, IF A STRONG TEAM WERE CHOSEN, I WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECOMMEND FINAL FORMALIZATION OF THE LOAN; IF NOT, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE FORGET THE WHOLE THING.

2. COMMENT: DIOGENES SAW THE LIGHT AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FLASH THE MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT BALAGUER, WHO, GIVEN THE GREAT IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY WANT TO KEEP A STRONG, PROFESSIONAL TEAM IN THIS AREA. CONFIDENTIAL

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Message Attributes

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